

## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON Monday, June 18, 2012, AT 6:00 p.m. IN THE Second Floor Conference Room.

THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:

Closed session as provided by Section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code

BY ORDER OF THE MAYOR

BY Paige Barfield

### **SECOND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM – June 18, 2012**

Council met in special session on this date with the following members present: Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith.

On motion by Ms. Galvin, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council voted, (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin; Noes: None; Absent: Ms. Smith), to meet in closed session for (1) Discussion of the acquisition by purchase or condemnation of real property right-of-way and easements located on the north side of the Route 250 Bypass west of Park Street in connection with the Route 250 / McIntire Road Interchange project, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the City's bargaining position or negotiating strategy, and discussion of the acquisition by purchase or condemnation of real property right-of-way and easements located in the City on the north side of Hydraulic Road and on the east side of U.S. Route 29 in connection with proposed road improvements, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the City's bargaining position or negotiating strategy, all as authorized by Va. Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (3); and, (2) Discussion and consideration of prospective candidates for appointment to City boards and commissions, as authorized by Virginia Code sec. 2.2-3711 (A) (1).

On motion by Ms. Galvin, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council certified by the following vote (Ayes: Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin; Noes: None; Absent: Ms. Smith), that to the best of each Council Member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session.

### **COUNCIL CHAMBERS – June 18, 2012**

Council met in regular session on this date with the following members present: Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith and Ms. Szakos.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Huja announced the members of the City's Bicycle Safety committee chose Jeff Shirley as this year's recipient of our second annual Community Partner Award. Mr. Shirley was present to accept the recognition.

Ms. Szakos announced the Better Business Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 21 at the Paramount Theatre. Ms. Terri Kent was present and spoke about the event.

Ms. Szakos announced the Charlottesville Community Band Festival on June 30 at the Pavilion.

Ms. Galvin reminded citizens of the chloramines public forum Thursday, June 21 at the Albemarle County Office Building in the Lane Auditorium, followed by a Four Boards Meeting on July 25. She also announced the RAD self-defense training program on June 23-24.

Ms. Smith said she enjoyed being a judge for the Better Business Challenge and encouraged citizens to attend the awards ceremony. She also reminded citizens of the Summer Cooling Assistance Program, which runs through August 15.

Mr. Norris announced VDOT is hosting a public meeting regarding the improvement project at US 250 and Best Buy at the Holiday Inn on Wednesday, June 20.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Andrew Silver, 108 Harris Rd., owner of Zocalo Restaurant, spoke to Council about mall vagrancy. He cited recent incidents on the downtown mall and said cameras and increased policing are some ideas for improving the safety of the downtown mall. More resources must be dedicated to this problem. He asked for the benches around the fountain to be removed, because they are not being utilized by patrons, but by vagrants.

Ms. Alissa Reeves, 413-B Moseley Dr., distributed photos to Council of vagrancy and issues on the downtown mall, especially activity at Central Place. She provided a list of recent incidents that have affected her business. She said she has not been satisfied with police attention to recent incidents. She also asked for removal of benches next to fountains at Central Place, greater police presence, and surveillance video cameras.

Ms. Lexi Moore, 716 B Madison Ave, is a waitress at Sals and said she has witnessed increasing issues with dangerous activity on the downtown mall, particularly involving homeless people and vagrants.

Ms. Karen Walker, Business Owner, 112 Second St., said she is around the corner from Central Place and reiterated what previous speakers said about the vagrancy

problem on the downtown mall. She said something needs to be done about public cursing.

Ms. Marnie Allen, representing MACAA, said she wanted to express appreciation for HAC's support for funding for the Hope House.

## **COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Huja said he recognizes concerns about the downtown mall and believes they are legitimate. He has had a lengthy discussion with the City Manager to see what steps the City can legally take to enforce the laws on the downtown mall.

Ms. Smith said it is helpful to hear from the downtown mall business owners and workers, and she said she is also concerned about the situation. She said it is important to get information about who are the perpetrators, because there are lots of assumptions being made, and finding out more about where people are coming from would be helpful in developing a strategy to alleviate the problem.

Mr. Norris said he agreed that we need a short term step-up in enforcement to crack down on unacceptable behaviors. These issues detract from the experience of being on the downtown mall. He supports short term and long term steps, including examining stronger ordinances. He asked for a work session to discuss policy and programmatic changes to get a better handle on the problem.

Ms. Galvin echoed her fellow Councilors and said she supports a work session to fully investigate this problem and employ a solution.

Ms. Szakos said she also agreed. She said one structural issue that will soon be resolved is the vacant hotel shell, which creates an empty space. This abandoned project has created issues. She said our economy has tanked, and so we have aimless citizens and lack of adequate mental health and substance abuse services. We should also examine the source of these problems as we look at enforcement.

On motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Ms. Smith, the following members were appointed to Boards and Commissions: to the Citizen's Advisory Panel, Arthur Sikora; to the CDBG, Chris Burton; to the Dialogue on Race, Gayle Floyd and Carmelita Wood; to MACAA, Fred Greer and Joy Johnson; to the Planning Commission, Lisa Green and Dan Rosensweig; to Region 10, Aaron Laushway; to the Retirement Commission, Dave Shifflett, Mary Kay Kotelec, and Pete Wingfield; to the Sister City Commission, Ralph Brown, Nana Ghartey, Krista Farrell, and Jeff Legro; to the Social Services Board, Anne Broccoli, Carl Brown, Stephanie Cangin, Jean Zearley, and Judith Zeitler. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin; Noes: None.)

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Szakos made a correction to the minutes.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Smith, the following consent agenda items were approved: (Ayes: Ms. Galvin, Mr. Huja, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Smith; Noes: None.)

- a. Minutes for June 4
- b. APPROPRIATION: Amendments to FY 2013 Adopted City Schools General Fund & Other Governmental Funds Budget - \$615,174 (carried)
- c. APPROPRIATION: Housing Rehabilitation Loan Repayment - \$18,884.36 (carried)
- d. APPROPRIATION: Housing Rehabilitation Small Repair Loan Repayment - \$743.60 (1 reading)
- e. RESOLUTION: School Resolutions Regarding Virginia Retirement System Rates and Employee Contributions for FY 2013
- f. RESOLUTION: City Contribution to Charlottesville Area Cultural Art Plan - \$25,000
- g. RESOLUTION: MACAA Matching Funds for DHCD Housing Solution Grant (HSG) - \$48,000
- h. RESOLUTION: PHAR Matching Funds for Bama Works Grant - \$25,000
- i. ORDINANCE: FY13 Supplemental Contribution to Virginia Cooperative Extension - \$7,355
- j. ORDINANCE: Council Access to Employee Medical and Dental Plans (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- k. ORDINANCE: Homeowner Tax Relief Grant – 2012 (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- l. ORDINANCE: Personal Property Tax Assessment of Vehicles Used by Students (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- m. ORDINANCE: Grant of Utility Easement Under 11th Street to UVA Foundation (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- n. ORDINANCE: Conveyance of easement to Dominion VA Power – McIntire Rd Interchange (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- o. ORDINANCE: Conveyance of easement to Century link – McIntire Rd Interchange (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)
- p. ORDINANCE: Eton Road Planned Unit Development (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)

**PUBLIC HEARING / RESOLUTION: ROUTE 250 BYPASS**

Mr. Tolbert presented to Council. The City has reached an understanding with MACAA to begin a friendly condemnation procedure in order to move the project forward. The intention is to continue working with them to come to a mutually agreeable negotiation.

The public hearing was opened.

Having no speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Szakos said she was pleased that both City staff and MACAA were able to figure out how to move forward in a mutually agreeable way. All parties are operating from a position of goodwill.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Ms. Galvin, the resolution passed. (Ayes: Mr. Norris, Ms. Smith, Mr. Huja, Ms. Szakos, Ms. Galvin; Noes: None.)

### **REPORT:** COMMUNITY INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Toan Nguyen presented to Council. He described the Community Investment Collaborative program, a microenterprise development organization with a mission to leverage community resources to provide capital and education to local entrepreneurs who have not been able to access traditional sources of funding and education. He described recent successes and recognized contributors.

Ms. Hebah Fisher described the training stage of the program, including class structure and participants, and recognized contributors and trainers. She discussed the financing stage of the program. The final stage is mentoring. She gave an overview of the entrepreneurs in their class.

She introduced Ms. Sandra Carr, who gave an account of her entrepreneurial experience. She also described the classmates' participation in the TomTom Pitch Festival. She invited Council to the graduation on August 4 at 4:00 pm in CitySpace.

Mr. Nguyen introduced the CIC board to Council.

Ms. Szakos said she enjoyed participating in several of the entrepreneur's surveys.

Ms. Smith said the program is fantastic. She asked if participants ever come in with just an idea, who does not already have a business. Mr. Nguyen said there are 18 participants, and nine of them have businesses. Ms. Smith asked how they recruit their entrepreneurs. Mr. Nguyen said they work with local agencies, including MACAA and OAR, who has been suggesting participants for the program. Ms. Smith asked if they are planning on one class a year. Mr. Nguyen said for now, yes; they are focusing on following this class through a complete cycle. They plan on doing two classes next year.

Mr. Alfred Allen Ale spoke about his organic garden and talked about how the class has helped him with his business.

Ms. Galvin asked what happens to graduates after graduation. She asked if they have a space to move into. Ms. Fisher said the program is working on that piece, but for now they receive a certificate of completion and are paired with a mentor. Mr. Nguyen

said a challenge for the next phase is to find a space for graduates to use, and he hoped Council and the community could assist.

Mr. Huja thanked Mr. Nguyen for his leadership on this project.

Mr. Nguyen thanked Mr. Norris for his support and advice.

### **REPORT: PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT UPDATE**

Mr. Sarad Davenport updated Council on the City of Promise program. He gave background on the program, outlined expected output for the planning year, and reviewed planning year goals. A needs assessment survey is underway to determine the academic and community support needs as defined by neighbors. He described the plan development process and discussed how they are establishing partnerships with community partners. He discussed their progress towards building community participation.

Ms. Smith asked how much this will mesh with existing programs that are in place within the community and schools. Mr. Davenport said a goal of the program is to connect people to resources that are already available. Ms. Smith said she wants to be sure we are assessing the effectiveness of programs, and that they are examined comprehensively.

Mr. Norris asked what Mr. Davenport saw in Harlem that could be replicated locally. Mr. Davenport said the Harlem Children Zone is their own organization and provides their own services. We here may not necessarily create our own programs, but instead partner with existing programs. We have different issues, but the goal of academic excellence for all children is the same.

Mr. Huja asked what kind of successful outcomes we can expect three years from now. Mr. Davenport said we want to see our young people reading on grade level and kindergarten-ready. College graduates will be coming back to Charlottesville to help develop a culture of success.

Ms. Smith asked how the program addresses children who move out of the zone. Mr. Davenport said in Harlem, once you are in the Harlem Children's Zone, you stay there. Logistically, this is something we will have to decide on as a group. Ms. Smith asked how well their data system will mesh with the data system the schools use. Mr. Davenport said their data system, ETO, can accommodate school data. Ms. Smith asked about City data, such as social services. Mr. Davenport said much of that will be manual, and this is an issue currently being discussed. Ms. Smith said information sharing has been a problem, and she hopes this will be addressed on the whole.

Ms. Szakos said something that changes the game is that one of the ultimate goals of the City of Promise is to grow to serve the entire community.

Mr. Norris asked about the importance of community and neighborhood engagement. Mr. Davenport said community engagement may be uncomfortable, but you have to build trust and be consistent and do the work no one else can do. That is the approach and culture the program has. We seek to understand first, which has made us successful thus far.

Ms. Galvin asked if there is a parent component to the program. Mr. Davenport said there is a parent council, and they are always engaged. Reaching out to the parents is the first step. They approach the family first.

## **MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Peter Kleeman, 407 Hedge St., said he is concerned that natural spaces will be converted to non-green spaces. Council should work with Planning Commissioners to maintain as much natural plant material as possible in those areas instead of installing synthetic playing fields, for example.

Mr. Brandon Collins, 536 Meade Ave., thanked Council on behalf of PHAR for the matching funds for the BAMA Works Foundation contribution. He addressed the reasons for PHAR's withdrawal from the City of Promise.

Mr. Alex Hancock, 2712 Eaton Rd., said Council should address community issues before world issues.

Ms. Yolanda Armstrong, speaking on behalf of the CIC, said she is a participant in the program, and it is much needed for people who need special training and resources to start their own business. She is with a Taste of Home, a southern cuisine that will include food trucks.

Mr. Quinton Harrell, 4737 Bluejay Way, said he commends the CIC. He also said City of Promise has boundless potential for what it can do for this community.

## **COUNCIL RESPONSE**

Ms. Smith said recently a keynote speaker discussed the need to educate our children not so much how to get jobs, but how to create jobs, and this really speaks to what CIC is doing.

The meeting was adjourned.

  
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Clerk of Council